Statement

Details of Searches, Seizures and Disclosures During the Financial Years 1991-92, 1992-93 *and* 1993-94

Financial Year	No. of searches	Value of assets seized	Disclosure under section 132(4) of the I.T. Act.
		(Rs. in lakhs)	(Rs. in lakhs)
1991-92	3468	17984.78	18835.43
1992-93	4777	58401.97	50105.12
1993-94	5026	39645.85	44882.87

Expenditure incurred on advertisement

2769. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *Alias* MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the details of the total amount spent by his Ministry on advertisement given to newspapers direct or through DAVP etc. during the period 1992-93 and 1993-94, language-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Excise Duty on Leather Chemicals

2770. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the leather chemicals have been permitted for import at a concessional duty of 20% without payment of counterveiling duty whereas the indigenous manufacturers have to pay an excise duty of 20% to 30% on their leather chemicals;

(b) whether it is also a fact that indigenous leather chemical manufacturers have to import their raw materials at duties ranging from 20% to 65% whereas, the finished chemicals can be imported at a concessional duty of 20% only; and

(c) if so, the reasons for supporting foreign manufacturers to sell their leather chemicals in our country at concessional rates at the expense of indigenous manufacturers, who have to pay a much higher duty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) Certain leather chemicals which are specified in notification No. 45/94-Customs dated 1.3.94 have been permitted for import at a concessional rate of 20% customs duty without counterveiling duty. The general rate of excise duty leviable on such chemicals is 20% *ad valorem*.

(b) Certain finished leather chemicals specified in notification No. 45/94-Customs, can be imported at a concessional rate of 20% duty. Specified raw materials for manufacture of leather chemicals attract a duty of 20% without any counterveiling duty. However, other raw materials for manufacture of leather chemical generally attract duty of 65% *ad valorem*.

(c) Concessional rate of import duty on leather chemicals was granted to give a thrust to the export efforts of the leather industry which is also employment-intensive. However indigenous chemicals used for the manufacture of exportable